



Mars Science Laboratory

OPENING REMARKS



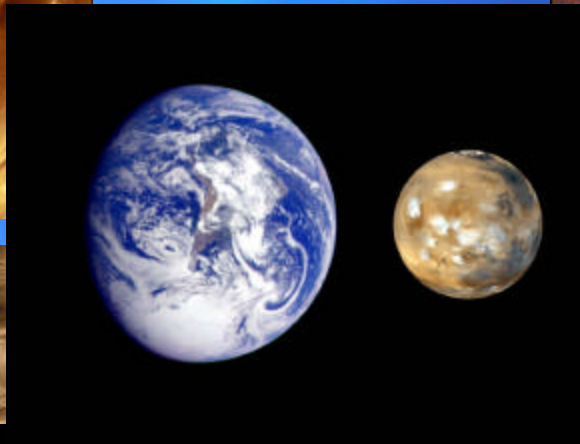
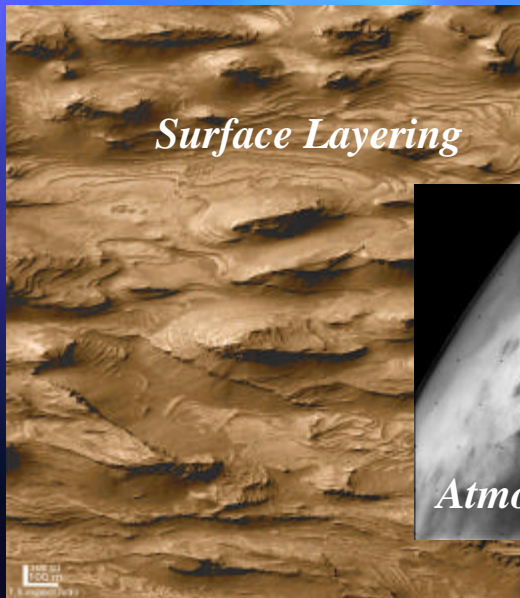
May 4, 2004

***NASA Lead Scientist for Mars
Office of Space Science
Dr. James B. Garvin***

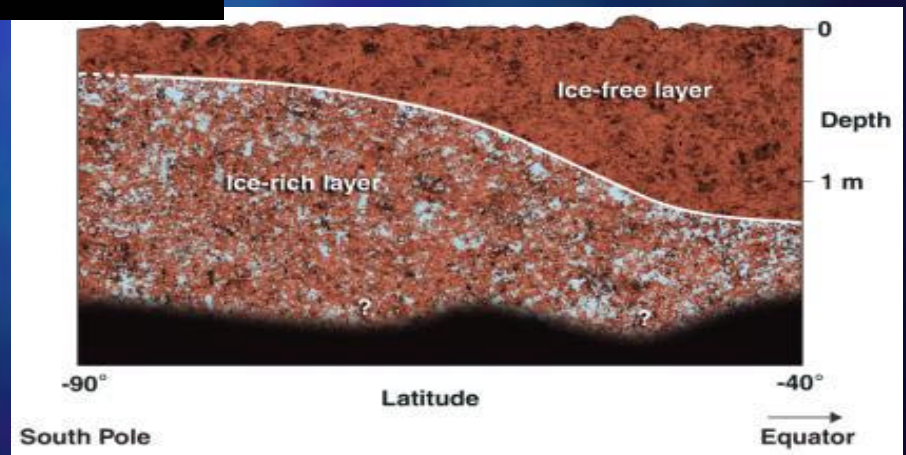
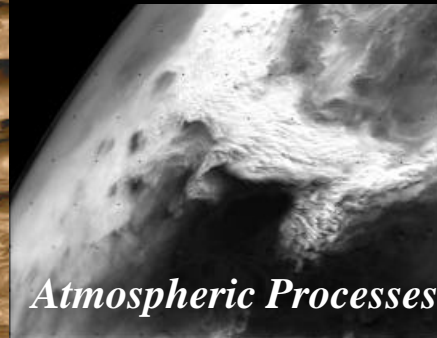
Mars: A Complex Planet



Comparative Planetology



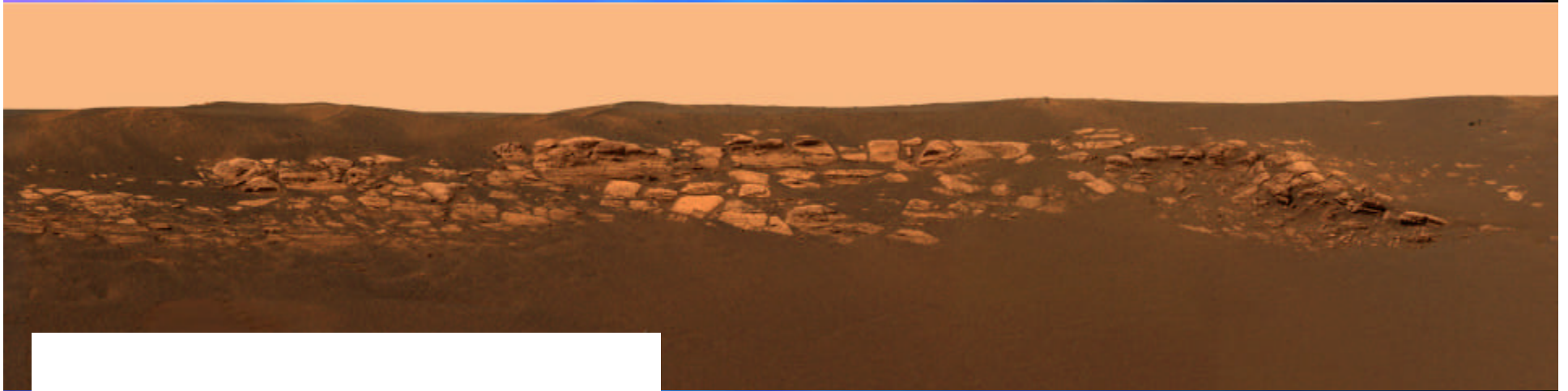
Subsurface Reservoirs



NEW CONTEXT in 2004!



Opportunity found evidence of water-lain sediments



MSL asks follow-on questions:
*How can we investigate a potential
habitat on Mars and assess its
preservation potential?*

Launch Year



Where MSL fits in...



MSL 2009:

First Exploration of a potential habitat:
A Return to Analytical measurements at the surface...following the sulfates to the carbon



MRO 2005:

Seeing the unseen from orbit... And extending what MER has found across all of Mars! Following the signs of sulfates to potential habitats...



MTO 2009: Monitoring the weather of Mars and tracking climate, dust storms...

Mars: 2004 to ...next decade

Recon for 2009...

where to go
and why



Prep. Human testbeds...Recon? Power?



We are here:
*1st in situ recon
for H₂O (yes!)*

1st analysis of ice

1st exploration of a habitat

1st samples and testbeds